# **What is State Pre-K?**

Nevada Pre-K Requirements & Guidelines • •

All Pre-K teachers must have an EC license or ECE endorsement.

All programs must utilize the approved NV Pre-K Content Standards.

Class sizes and child/staff ratios must not exceed National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) recommendations: 4-yr olds 20:2

All programs must use Early Childhood and Parenting Outcome Indicators in order to demonstrate the effectiveness of the program.

Children enrolled in the program must be under Kindergarten age (5 years old on or before September 30) and Pre-K age of 4 years old.

Programs primarily serve families who are low-income and have maximum income of 200% of Federal Poverty

All programs must be full school day.

All programs must participate in the statewide program evaluation system (annual and longitudinal)

The Nevada state-funded Pre-Kindergarten program was first funded during the 2001 legislative session with the major goal being school readiness for Nevada's prekindergarten children by providing high quality early education that also supports parent involvement as outlined in the original document *Public Support of Pre-Kindergarten Education for School Readiness* in Nevada (2000).

A rich body of research shows that pre-k can promote children's success in kindergarten, diminish the achievement gap and facilitate long-term outcomes such as high school graduation and college entry.  The 2015 Nevada Legislature has approved matching funds to support the 4 year PreK expansion program. SPCSA is planning to implement 320 seats in Clark County and 100 seats in Washoe County over the next 4 years.

“We see how Early Childhood experiences are important to lifelong outcomes, how the early environment literally becomes embedded in the brain and changes its architecture.”

Andrew S. Garner

Pre-K Content Standards For the first time in Nevada's history, content standards have been developed to describe appropriate outcomes for children at the end of their preschool experience and entering kindergarten. The standards have been developed based on the research that supports the significance of the early years in future student achievement and can be used by all early childhood education programs in Nevada as a guide for child outcomes for preschool. The standards are a published list of descriptions of what most children should know and be able to do before they enter kindergarten. The standards are focused on the following six areas: Creative Arts; Language/Literacy; Math; Physical Development/Health; Science; Social Studies/Social Emotional (www.NevadaRegistry.org)